

From Exploitative Plantations to Store Shelves: Exposing the Palm Oil Supply Chain

Indonesia is the world's biggest producer of palm fruit, crude palm oil, and refined palm oil. In 2020, \$10B in refined palm oil was imported from Indonesia—more than half of all global imports.

Palm fruit comes from oil palm trees that grow fresh fruit bunches. These bunches are harvested by adult and child laborers, who are subjected to exploitative labor conditions on palm oil plantations in Indonesia and other parts of the world. Harvesters' steep daily targets are unachievable within a standard workday, compelling them to work long hours without overtime pay or incur sharp deductions in wages. Workers are also exposed to toxic chemicals without personal protective equipment, and some experience physical or sexual violence.

